Rt. 21, Frederick, Md. 21701
8/16/76

Mr. Ken Witty
CBS Reports
530 W. 57 St.,
New York, N.Y. 10019

Dear Mr. Witty,

This will confirm our phone conversation following my this morning's receipt of your order for Oswald in New Orleans.

Because the order says it is for use as background and because the book is out of print I offered to permit you to make whatever xerox copies you need for your project for research purposes in return for a clear copy of any nature for me and for sending the book back. In this event, please change the enclosed bill to $2.00.

When you explained the nature of your project I told you that some of the manuscript that was edited out is relevant to your project. I believe I can still find that copy. I also told you that in connection with a book I've researched and begun to write some of my subsequent work I am not willing to give away. This relates to training camps and my other New Orleans work.

In the broader sweep of your project I have done much work. I researched that book years ago and had to lay it aside. I hope to return to it so while I am willing to be of what help I may in what can be a worthwhile project you understand that I cannot give this work away xkxxx either.

Because from your description this does appear to be a worthwhile project I did offer to spend a limited amount of time without compensation. This is because I cannot keep up with my own work and because I am used as a paid consultant by other elements of the media.

I explained that if we have any meetings I would want them taped and after CBS' use of the tapes was past they would be returned to me for whatever value they may have in an oral-history project in which a university system is interested and on which I have not been able to perform. Under the same circumstances I told you to feel free to tape any conversations we may have by phone, particularly because the subject matter is so complex and there are so many different representations of what is supposed to be fact. This applies to Ms. Ranoff if she should call me. It is not necessary to ask me if you may tape. Or for her to. I believe that with your most basic research you should take this precaution because there are substantial questions of fact and interpretation and if I am consulted about other sources available to you I believe that other than the researcher should know what opinions I offer and what support if I am asked for support. This is an extremely complex matter made more complex by a variety of personal interests in it.

Among the sources the dependability of which I questioned is the Schweiker report, which you had not read. I believe that this is basic and that if you take it as literal truth it can make CBS into a disinformation operation. If you desire I can expand on this but Senator Schweiker began with a preconception and based his report on factual error. Because this is an official report of a supposed investigation to which previously secret records were available this also illustrates what I conceive to be part of the many problems you face. Despite his investigator powers and authorities he was conned by the spooks. One example of this is his masking of names where there was no need to mask them. I have files on all of them. This is one way of saying that I have an awareness of your problems and the amount of time that can be wasted in attempting to resolve them.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

530 W 57 Leslie Banoff

CBS PURCHASE REQUISITION

See CBS Rpts - 6525 (3676)

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M. Goldstein 518/5

DATE: August 2, 1976

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34807	2009 Ken Witty 975-6630 TEL. EXT. ~~2878~~	CBS REPORTS	~~Ken Witty~~ ~~35 West 45th St.~~ ~~8th Floor~~	CND	401-3366 ~~401-6702~~	

PLEASE DO NOT WRITE IN SHADED AREA – FOR CBS PURCHASING DEPARTMENT USE ONLY

	VENDOR	ORDER NUMBER	APP'D.	TERMS	F.O.B.	DELIVERY DATE
1						
2	Harold Weisberg					
3	Route 8					
4	Frederick, Md. 21701					
5						
6						
7						
8						

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DATE REQUIRED: SOONEST

PURPOSE WANTED FOR: Background Information

VENDOR	QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION	UNIT PRICE	EXTENSION
	[redacted]			
	1	Oswald in New Orleans by Weisberg		

My McDonnell 8/12/76

SPECIAL PROJECTS LIBRARY AUG 12 1976

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CBS NEWS

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Howard Stringer	Howard Stringer H.S.	Richard Salant	[ ] YES [ ] NO	

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CBS 529 REV. 2/74